

## Building

New buildings start with tearing down,  
With structures being brought to earth,  
With land swept clean of all that hinders progress:  
Digging deep and building strong,  
Brick by brick and stone by stone,  
We make foundations that endure.

Charles Houston was a builder  
Who wrestled with injustice:  
Who tore down restrictive laws,  
Swept clean the field of opportunity;  
Digging deep and building strong—  
Brick by legal brick, stone by hard-won stone,  
He built foundations for the future.

This building, his namesake,  
Borne of hope and strength,  
Honors him..and this community.  
His values, rooted deep, maintained so strong,  
Brick on remembering brick, stone on history's stone:  
Are the foundation that endures.

Mary McElveen  
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Charles Houston Dedication Ceremony